

This Great Battlefield of Shiloh: History, Memory, and the Establishment of a Civil War National Military Park

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Schultz thoughtfully considers other fascinating issues, such as the bonding that took place between hospital workers and their soldier-patients, the sorts of professional insecurities that caused male hospital workers to be less welcoming of women's contributions, the ways male and female hospital workers' conflicts became manifest in their contrasting approaches to soldier care, and so forth. *Women at the Front* is destined to stand as the definitive book on Civil War women hospital workers for many years to come. Future scholars in the field will find that they simply have to consult it. Luckily for them, it will be a joy to do so.

This Great Battlefield of Shiloh: History, Memory, and the Establishment of a Civil War National Military Park, by Timothy B. Smith. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 2004. xxi, 179 pp. Illustrations, maps, notes, appendixes, bibliography, index. \$28.95 cloth.

Reviewer Dan Lewis is assistant professor of history at Tidewater Community College in Norfolk, Virginia. He is the director of a professional development program for public school teachers funded by a federal grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

In *This Great Battlefield of Shiloh*, Timothy Smith examines the efforts of Union and Confederate veterans to preserve the Shiloh Civil War battlefield in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Beginning with the establishment of a grassroots veterans' organization in 1893, he tracks the development of the site from a neglected battlefield in rural Hardin County, Tennessee, to a pristine, federally funded battle park adorned with markers and memorials in the 1930s.

Situating his analysis in the field of memory studies, Smith contends that the history of Shiloh National Military Park reveals much about the "veterans' memory of the Civil War" (xxi). In recent years readers of Civil War history have been greeted with a harvest of insightful studies that examine the conflict's historical memory, including Kirk Savage's *Standing Soldiers, Kneeling Slaves: Race, War, and Monument in Nineteenth-Century America* (1997), Carol Reardon's *Pickett's Charge in History and Memory* (1997), and David W. Blight's *Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory* (2001). Smith's book showcases a particularly rich site of collective memory in the period of sectional reconciliation in the 1890s when the North and the South focused on memorializing the bravery of Union and Confederate soldiers. As the author suggests, sectional harmony came at a tremendous cost: "both sections ignored the issues of race and slavery that had caused them to kill one another in the 1860s" (xv).

Interestingly, a group of Iowa veterans who had fought at Shiloh played a major role in the establishment of the national military park. A prominent member of the House of Representatives, David B. Henderson, from Fayette County, drafted the legislation to establish the park. Hailing from Muscatine at the start of the war, Cornelius Cadle chaired the Shiloh National Military Park Commission; and David W. Reed, a college student at Upper Iowa University when he enlisted in 1861, was the commission's secretary and historian. It was Reed, the "Father of the Shiloh National Military Park," who researched the battle, marked the battlefield, and "created the dominant historical interpretation of the Battle of Shiloh" (68) that is still in vogue at the park today.

Smith's analysis falls short of proving that Cadle and Reed produced "a part of the memory of the Civil War that ultimately helped reconcile" the North and the South (xix). Although the rhetoric at dedication ceremonies for Union and Confederate memorials "exuded reconciliation and harmony" (90), there is little evidence to suggest that Confederate veterans worked in concert with their Union counterparts to establish the Shiloh battle park. If Cadle and Reed were committed to sectional reconciliation, why weren't Confederate veterans directly involved in the development of the battlefield interpretation? Why did these Iowans shun Robert F. Looney, the well-known Confederate veteran who served on the Shiloh National Military Park Commission? Because Iowans were so pivotal to the shaping of historical memory at Shiloh, more research is needed to understand how their views of national reconciliation informed the establishment of the battle park.

Women in Missouri History: In Search of Power and Influence, edited by LeeAnn Whites, Mary C. Neth, and Gary R. Kremer. Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 2004. vii, 275 pp. Notes, bibliography, index. \$24.95 paper.

Reviewer Anita Ashendel is a Trustee Lecturer in history at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI). Her research interests include mid-western history and women's history.

Women in Missouri History is a collection of 14 high-quality essays that cover virtually every era of Missouri women's history from colonial settlement to the mid-twentieth century. One goal of the book is to expand Missouri state history by moving "closer to the kind of general historical overview of women that we already have for other social groups in the state" (14). The other goal is to "explore how Missouri's women have engaged and participated in formally organized systems

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